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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: R. Lattime, et al.

Examiner: Micht

Serial No: 09/656352

Group Art Unit: 1714

Filed: 9-6-00

Date: September , 2000

For: CARPET LATEX COMPOUND

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D. C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Please consider the following amendment before examining the subject application and prior to counting claims for purposes of determining the filing fee for the same.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

2. (Amended) A carpet comprising: [which is comprised of]

a backing; [and]

a pile which is bonded to said backing with an admixture [of] comprising: a carboxylated styrene-butadiene rubber, a rosin acid soap and a filler.

3. (Amended) A process for manufacturing carpet which comprises the steps of:

(1) coating one side of a backing with a carpet latex compound to produce a latex-coated backing, wherein the carpet latex compound [is comprised of] comprises: (a) a carboxylated styrene-butadiene latex, (b) a filler and (c) a thickener; and wherein said carboxylated styrene-butadiene latex is comprised of (i) water, (ii) a carboxylated styrene-butadiene rubber, (iii) an emulsifier and (iv) a rosin acid soap;

(2) bringing a pile into contact with the coated side of the latex-coated backing[.];

and

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